Rev. James H. Thomas.
Edgartown Aug. 15th 1839

Dear Bro,

165

I have been informed that one of the congregational churches in Salem is vacant. I should be willing to preach to them as a candidate, if they way be prepared. And can you not make such arrangements, that I may receive an invitation from them to supply their pulpit any sabbath in September after the first Sabbath?
Or if there be a vacancy in or near Boston, or at Worcester, or at Lowell (as I have been informed there was a vacancy in each of the latter named places) I would preach in those places, provided I were to receive an invitation from them.
I write to you confidentially, as I do not wish to give my reasons for feeling a desire to leave this place so soon. For reasons that I do not feel proper to mention, I did not allow myself to be installed over this people. Will you be so kind as to comply with my request, & write me soon. I calculate to visit Boston sometime in October if the Lord permit.

Yours in the bonds of the gospel.
James H Thomas

Rev A. A. Phelps.